

University of Waterloo: Conrad Grebel College

MUSIC 246: Soundtracks

Winter 2022

Instructor: Simon Wood

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Covid 19: It was the intention of the university that this course would be presented in-person. As of today (Tuesday January 4th) the return to campus is delayed until Thursday January 27th. Therefore, our first three lectures will be presented as audio files which may be found on the course Learn site. Once the class returns to in-person, no further lecture material will be posted. It is assumed that students will attend lectures on campus once they resume. If the return to campus is delayed beyond January 27th, we will continue to make use of audio lectures on Learn. For those who seek more information on policies regarding Covid 19 should consult the University's Covid Information Page: <https://uwaterloo.ca/coronavirus/>

Course Objective: Music 246 is a historical and aesthetic survey of the styles, trends, and important figures in the development of narrative film music, from the invention of moving pictures to the present day. The course will also include a discussion of the technical process of creating film music, as well as a review of the role of popular music in film.

Required Texts:

Roger Hickman, Reel Music: Exploring 100 Years of Film Music: 2nd Edition (New York: WW Norton, 2017).

Methods of Evaluation:

Assessment	Weighting	Date
Term Test 1	25%	Thursday February 3 rd at 7:00 pm
Term Test 2	30%	Thursday March 3 rd at 7:00 pm
Examination	45%	TBA-During the April Exam Period

Term Test:

The tests will be in multiple-choice format. The tests and the exam are NOT cumulative. The duration of the term tests is 50 minutes. The duration of the final exam is two hours. **IF YOU MISS A TEST, PLEASE NOTIFY ME IMMEDIATELY.**

NOTE: If, due to the pandemic, the class remains on-line, the tests will be held on-line through the course Learn page. The approach, material covered and durations will remain the same.

Please note that all marks are final – adjustments or deferred tests will be granted in the case of documented illness or family emergency.

Viewing:

Students must view one film every week, as indicated in the Course Schedule. Questions will be posted on the course web site that will act as a guide to your viewing. Most of these films can be found through online streaming services.

As a UW student, you have access to the Criterion Collection, and excellent online collection of hundreds of films. Most of the films we will be watching this term can be accessed through this site.

On campus you should be able to link to the site through the following:

<https://www.criterionondemand.com/>

Off campus you need to connect using this link and enter your last name and WatCard barcode number:

<https://proxy.lib.uwaterloo.ca/login?url=https://www.criterionondemand.com/>

Web Page: This course will make use of a WATERLOO LEARN website. This site will provide general information for the course, study guides and grades for term tests. Important announcements such as the cancellation of class due to illness will also be posted there, so please try to check the site before each class, just in case.

General Faculty and University Policy:

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals.

Other sources of information for students:

Academic Integrity website (Arts)

Academic Integrity Office (UWaterloo)

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Note for students with disabilities: The AccessAbility Services office, located in Needles Hall Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Illness: If a student misses an in-person lecture due to illness, they should acquire a copy of the class notes from a classmate, review the notes, then make an appointment to see me to review any aspects of the lecture that are not clear. If a student misses an in-person test due to documented illness, a deferred test will be offered once the student is able to return to campus. Documentation of the illness will be required before the deferred test is permitted.

Course Outline:

Course topics, Viewing Assignments and readings:

Week 1, 2 and 3: Course Introduction, What to Listen For in Film / Technical Details, How It’s Done / Early History, The Silent Era

Reading: Chapters 1-8

Week 4: The Birth of Sound, and the Orchestra in Hollywood:

Viewing: *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1938)

Reading: Chapters 9 and 10

Week 5: Film Music Comes of Age (1940-1950): Viewing: *Laura* (1944)

Readings: Chapter 11 to 13

Week 6: The 1950s and Hitchcock/Herrmann:

Viewing: *Psycho* (1960) Readings: Chapters 14 and 15

Week 7: The 1960s/Goldsmith:

Viewing: *Planet of the Apes* (1968)

Readings: Chapters 17 and 18

Week 8: The 1970s/Williams: Viewing: *Jaws* (1975)

Readings: Chapters 19 to 21

Week 9: The 1980s/Horner:

Viewing: *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* (1982)

Readings: Chapters 23 to 25

Week 10: The 90s:

Viewing: *Edward Scissorhands* (1990)

Reading: Chapters 22 and 27

Week 11: Current Trends:

Viewing: *Inception* (2010)

Reading: Chapters 26, 29 and 30

Week 12: (Time Permitting) Music For Television:

Viewing and Readings TBA